

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1 Claim 1 (original): A polynucleotide comprising:
2 a nucleotide sequence encoding an RNAi operatively linked to a tissue specific promoter,
3 a cell specific promoter, and/or an inducible promoter.

1 Claims 2-17 (canceled)

1 Claim 18 (currently amended): A vector comprising a polynucleotide according to ~~any~~
2 ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1.

1 Claim 19 (canceled)

1 Claim 20 (currently amended): A host cell comprising the polynucleotide according to
2 ~~any one of claims 1 to 17 or the vector according to any one of claims 18 and 19~~ claim 1.

1 Claims 21-22 (canceled)

1 Claim 23 (currently amended): A transgenic animal comprising the polynucleotide
2 according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 17, the vector according to any one of claims 18 and~~
3 ~~19 or the host cell according to any one of claims 20 to 22~~ claim 1.

1 Claim 24 (currently amended): A method of inhibiting or reducing expression of a target
2 gene in a cell of an organism, said method comprising the steps:

3 (i) administering to said cell a polynucleotide according to ~~any one of claims 1 to~~
4 ~~17~~ claim 1 ~~or the vector according to any one of claims 18 and 19~~, wherein the RNAi has
5 specificity or partial specificity for the target gene; and

6 (ii) allowing expression of the RNAi such that the RNAi inhibits or reduces
7 expression of the target gene.

1 Claim 25 (canceled)

1 Claim 26 (currently amended): A method of identifying a modulator of a target gene,
2 said method comprising the steps:

3 (i) providing a host cell according to claim 20~~any one of claims 20 to 22 or a~~
4 ~~transgenic organism according to claim 23;~~

5 (ii) administering a candidate modulator to said host cell or said transgenic organism;
6 and

7 (iii) determining expression of said target gene in the presence of the candidate
8 modulator.

1 Claim 27 (canceled)

1 Claim 28 (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a
2 polynucleotide according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 17, the vector according to any one of~~
3 ~~claims 18 and 19 or the host cell according to any one of claims 20 to 22~~claim 1 and a
4 pharmaceutical excipient.

1 Claims 29-30 (canceled)

1 ~~27.~~Claim 31 (currently amended): A method for establishing the biological function(s) of
2 a target gene(s) in ~~one or more specific tissues and/or the host cell types according to any~~
3 ~~one of claims 20 to 22 or a transgenic animal according to claim 23~~ of claim 20.